FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE GROUND SCAR SOUTH OF THE AUTOCRAFT SHOP, PARCEL 157(7) FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

JANUARY 2002
REVISION 1

U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES DECISION DOCUMENT

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at the Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(7), at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the parcel at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of the site investigation completed at the Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(7), the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(7). A list of background documents for Parcel 157(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcel 157(7) is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING SITE

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC comprises two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range.

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCEL 157(7)

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, ***Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama***, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2002, ***Final Site Investigation Report, Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama, Revision 1***, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000, ***Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, July.

QST Environmental, Inc. (QST), 1998, ***Final Site Investigation Work Plan, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, March.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, ***Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama***, July.

Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which occupies 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which occupies 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

The Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(7), is located in the west-central portion of the FTMC Main Post (Figure 1), near the intersection of Derby Street (formerly 23rd Avenue) and Justice Avenue (formerly 11th Avenue). The area is bounded on the north by Derby Street and on the south by both Area T-6 and the Former Sandel Flamethrower Range. It is bounded on the east and west by woods.

Aerial photographs taken in 1964 revealed a ground scar that extended south of the Autocraft Shop. Photographs taken in 1954 suggest that soil was excavated from this area. FTMC personnel stated that a "confidence" or obstacle course was located at this site (QST Environmental, Inc. [QST], 1998).

QST personnel identified two borrow pits at the northern edge of the parcel next to Derby Street (QST, 1998). Remnants of the confidence course are located approximately 100 feet south of the borrow pits. Evidence of disposal activities or other activities that could have resulted in environmental damage were not observed (QST, 1998). Additional information regarding operations at this site was not available.

A small hill is located in the eastern half of the parcel. The ground surface along the northern end of the parcel slopes to the north. The moderately sloped site is wooded.

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey (Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. [ESE], 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT McCLELLAN

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library
Reference Section
Anniston, Alabama 36201
Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison
Telephone: (256) 237-8501
Fax: (256) 238-0474
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library
9th Floor
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265
Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249
Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. Parcel 157(7) was categorized as a CERFA Category 7 parcel in the environmental baseline survey. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or that require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 157(7) is re-categorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response.

SITE INVESTIGATION

IT Corporation (IT) completed a site investigation at the Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(7), to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT, 2002). As part of the site investigation, IT incorporated data previously collected at the site by QST.

IT and QST collected a total of six surface soil samples, three subsurface soil samples, and two groundwater samples. Groundwater samples were collected from two permanent monitoring wells installed during the site investigation. The samples were analyzed for metals, volatile organic compounds (VOC), semivolatile organic compounds (SVOC), pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), and nitroexplosive compounds. In addition, three soil samples were analyzed for total organic carbon content.

To evaluate whether the detected constituents pose a threat to human health and the environment, the analytical results

were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) and ecological screening values (ESV) for FTMC (IT, 2000). The SSSLs and ESVs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with site investigations being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. Additionally, metals concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs were compared to media-specific background screening values (Science Applications International Corporation, 1998), and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs in surface soils were compared to PAH background values (IT, 2000).

The potential threat to human receptors is expected to be minimal. Although the site is projected for passive recreation reuse, the analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for possible unrestricted future use. The metals that exceeded SSSLs in site media were below their respective background concentrations or within the range of background values. PAH compounds were detected in one surface soil sample at concentrations exceeding SSSLs but below PAH background values. VOC results in site media were below SSSLs.

The potential threat to ecological receptors is also expected to be very low. The metals that exceeded ESVs were below their respective background concentrations or within the range of background values, with the exceptions of beryllium, copper, and selenium in surface soil. However, the beryllium, copper, and selenium results were attributed to variations in naturally occurring background levels. Three PAH compounds were detected in one surface soil sample at concentrations exceeding ESVs but below PAH background values. VOC results were below ESVs.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(7).

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcel 157(7). No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and chemical compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse.

Furthermore, Parcel 157(7) is re-categorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. The U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(3) (formerly Parcel 157[7]).

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost:	$0
Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs:	$0
Present Worth Cost:	$0
Months to Implement:	None
Remedial Duration:	None.

DECLARATION

Further remedial action is unnecessary at the Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(3) (formerly Parcel 157[7]). The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with relevant federal and state regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel or that require land-use control restrictions. The site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Parcel 157(7) is re-categorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Ground Scar South of the Autocraft Shop, Parcel 157(3) (formerly Parcel 157[7]).

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

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ACRONYMS

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
IT	IT Corporation
PAH	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon
QST	QST Environmental, Inc.
SSSL	site-specific screening level
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
VOC	volatile organic compound

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